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October 19, 2005
Date

Sheryl R. Neumann
Signature

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor: Katsuya
WATANABE, et al.

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Conf. No.: 1679

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Group Art Unit: 2655

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Appln. No.: 10/805,965

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Examiner: WAYNE R. YOUNG

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Filing Date: March 22, 2004

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Attorney Docket No.: 10407-82US
(A3103MT-US1)

Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR RECOGNIZING OPTICAL DISCS, OPTICAL
DISC DRIVE, AND METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DISTINGUISHING DATA
STORAGE LAYER

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c)(1) AND §1.97(e)(1)

Enclosed is an Information Disclosure Citation Form PTO/SB/08A and/or 08B in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(1) and (a)(2) listing all patents, publications, applications, and/or other information being submitted for consideration which may be material to the patentability of this application and/or for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. Also enclosed are copies of each of the foreign patents and/or non-patent literature documents cited therein but not copies of any U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent application publications in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2). However, we will provide copies upon request.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission that any of the listed documents constitutes prior art, nor as an admission against interest in any manner.

I hereby certify that each document cited in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a Chinese Office Action (copy enclosed) dated September 9, 2005 from the Chinese Patent Office in counterpart Chinese Application No. 200410031797.8 not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.

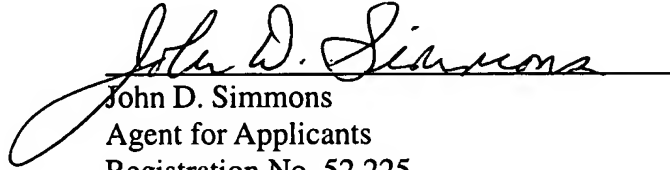
No fee is believed to be due in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-1017.

It is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement and the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A and/or 08B be considered and acknowledged by the Examiner in connection with the above-identified patent application, be made of record therein, and that the listed document(s) be cited in the issued patent.

Respectfully submitted,

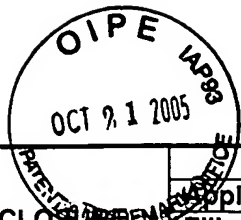
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Enclosures



Form PTO/SB/08A		Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)		Application Number	10/805,965
		Filing Date	March 22, 2004
		First Named Inventor	Katsuya WATANABE, et al.
		Group Art Unit	2655
		Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet 1 of 1	Attorney Docket Number	10407-82US (A3103MT-US1)	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS				
Exr Initials	U.S. Patent Document		Name of First Inventor of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-YYYY
	Number	Kind Code (if known)		
	2002/0154582	A1	YONCZAWA et al.	10-2002
	6,469,965	B1	HORITA	10-2002

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Exr Initials	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-YYYY	T ₁
	Country Code	Number	Kind Code (if known)			
	EP	0 731 457	A2	LG Electronics Inc.	09-1996	X

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS		
Exr Initials	Include Name of first Author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (where appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), volume-issue number(s), page(s), date (in parentheses). If a book, also include publisher and city and/or county where published.	T ₁

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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